## **REMARKS**

The above amendment is presented to correct an error in the specification.

In this regard, in Comparative Example 4 on page 11 of the specification, it is disclosed that "The mercerized pulp used in Comparative Example 3 ...". Also, in Comparative Example 6 on page 13, it is disclosed that "The mercerized pulp used in Comparative Example 5 ...". However, neither Comparative Example 3 nor Comparative Example 5 uses a mercerized pump. If mercerized pulp is employed then these examples would not appear to be comparative.

The term "mercerized" has therefore been deleted from the first line of Comparative Example 4 and Comparative Example 6.

In the original PCT specification in the Japanese language, this was disclosed correctly, and an error was made during translation from Japanese into English.

Favorable action is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Yoshiaki TOMOTAKE et al.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

By:\_

Matthew M. Jacob

Registration No. 25,154 Attorney for Applicants

MJ/asd Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 March 5, 2004